

The Farmington Times

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WHEN THE WAR CLOSES

During the campaign just closed, in their efforts to pick up an issue, our Republican friends contended that the country's prosperity, which was too evident to be denied, was all due to the European war; even their candidate for President endeavored to surmount this fact by saying it was "only a fool's paradise"—that at the close of the war the bottom would drop out of it and the country would experience a calamitous business slump.

Of course it was all campaign talk, as anything, however absurd, goes in a political campaign. But we do not believe, and we do not believe that the speakers and writers of the Republican party believe, that there was or is any reasonable apprehension that peace in Europe would affect the prosperity in this country in any dire way. It rests upon too sure a foundation—the confidence of experienced business men, the resourcefulness of American business enterprise, and the finest opportunities possessed by any nation on earth. To argue otherwise would be to doubt the energy, courage, constructiveness and ability to hold our own with any nation however favorably situated.

That the European war has contributed largely to American prosperity is recognized by all. We have been supplying the belligerent nations with munitions of war to such an extent that the operators of our munitions factories have enlarged their plants and increased their working force to supply the demand, and have been making big profits. Also, because every available able-bodied man in these warring nations has been drawn into their armies and their ability to grow and produce food-stuffs has been woefully weakened. The United States, always a large supplier of food products to these nations, has been called upon to make up their enforced shortage. This increased demand has raised the price of everything to eat, thus favoring the grain growers, live stock breeders and everybody engaged directly or indirectly in any kind of food production. The same demand has added to the high cost of living with us, but this is largely offset by the plentifulness of money and better wages.

The demands thus made upon us by Europe, and which we have met with all the energy and resources at our command, has caused the gold of the warring nations to flow into our laps. Our credits abroad, that were thrown back upon us to help pay for what they bought, instead of producing a panic and slump in the stock markets, thanks to the stable and constructive financial system of the Federal Reserve Act, have been readily handled and absorbed, and from a debtor we have been transformed into a creditor nation. This has placed the prosperity of our country upon a sound, substantial basis which, though business might slow down some, could not be shaken by any sudden change except that of our nation being dragged into war.

When the European war ends—and God speed the day—our war munitions factories will have to be curtailed, but they can be turned to other and more peaceful production. American genius, enterprise and constructiveness will provide the means and way. Europe will be dismantled, millions of the flower of her manhood will have been killed or maimed, and she will need our aid and good offices for years to rehabilitate herself. She will need our food and other products, but, thank God, not our death-dealing missiles. What has, what can, American business have to fear from a Europe dismantled, wounded and impoverished by the scourge of such a devastating war?

With the probability that the Republicans may have a bare majority in the House of Representatives of the next Congress, though the Democratic House leaders claim that it will be the other way round, President Wilson is likely to be somewhat handicapped in carrying out all his plans of reform and progressive legislation. However, some of the Republican members from the West will be constrained by the strong sentiment in their States to vote with the Democrats on many measures that will come up for consideration.

A LITTLE BOUQUET

The Democrats of St. Francois county have something more on which to congratulate themselves than the splendid local victory that they won on the 7th, and that is on the general harmony that prevailed in the rank and file throughout the campaign, the clean fight which the men on the ticket made, and the perfect organization of their forces.

Factional differences, if there are any left in the party, were held in abeyance and not permitted to show themselves. Perhaps the local organization never entered upon a campaign in better fettle or shape for good work, and throughout everything was well managed. The County Central Committee did all that could be expected of it. Chairman Parkhurst Sleeth was new at the work, but his energy was untiring, and his judgment, not only in selecting but in getting the speakers he thought would do the most good, proved excellent. He was ably assisted by Secretary Francis A. Benham, who kept busy and his eyes open as to general details, and the other members of the committee cheerfully backed them up in all their arrangements.

The Democrats all over the county showed the most lively interest at all times, encouraging the committee and the ticket, and for this the committee and the successful candidates are most heartily thankful to them, as well as to the labor organizations of the Lead Belt and a number of former Republicans who helped to swell the Democratic vote.

A WOMAN IN CONGRESS

For the first time in the history of our country a woman will occupy a seat in the National House of Representatives. Miss Jeannette Rankin of Montana was elected Representative from her district on the Republican ticket. Her father was a lumberman and ranchman, and she is said to possess the nerve, independence and confidence in herself of one reared close to nature.

When asked what she expected to do she replied: "What do I expect to do? Why, I expect to represent the people of Montana, of course, but I shall lose no opportunity to advocate the measures the women of America want and are entitled to; still I realize that my first duty is to all the people, and I will do my best." We judge she is at no loss as a speaker, as she further says, "I'll have to make speeches, of course, but that doesn't bother me in the least", and we predict that she will not have any trouble in "catching the Speaker's eye" when she wants to address the House.

Doubtless, realizing that she is a pioneer woman in national legislation, she will do her best to create a good impression and thus make women members of the house so popular that other States may be persuaded to follow Montana's example. Woman suffrage, like prohibition, is marching on, and we mere men might just as well bow to the inevitable and watch the procession with good grace in its forward movement.

Roosevelt should be discarded to the dump-heap, where he should long since have been.

Let us hope that the hyphen in citizenship has disappeared for all time and will never again be spelled with a capital H. America is for Americans and all who are loyal to its republican institutions. There is no place here for divided allegiance.

Mr. Hughes has not yet sent his congratulations to President Wilson on the walloping the latter gave him. To have done so would have shown good sportsmanship, but then what's the sense in a fellow saying things he doesn't mean? It's bad enough to be licked without congratulating the victor.

Kansas holds the belt for the widest political divergence in its vote. The Republican State ticket out there was elected by majorities ranging from 40,000 to 75,000, and then the voters turned square around and gave a majority of 30,000 to the Democratic presidential electors. Kansas sure thinks well of Mr. Wilson.

MINORITY PRESIDENTS

Contrary to the general expectation, Mr. Wilson in the election last week carried not only a majority of the electoral vote, but a majority of the popular vote as well. From the returns it is estimated that his popular vote will exceed that of Mr. Hughes somewhere in the neighborhood of half a million votes. But it is not an unusual thing for a candidate to get a majority of the electoral vote and fall short of a majority of the popular vote.

This was the case four years ago, when Mr. Wilson received 435 electoral votes, but his popular vote was only 6,293,019, while the combined vote of Taft, Roosevelt, the Socialist, Prohibition and Socialist Labor candidates for President was 7,743,523, or nearly a million and a half more than Mr. Wilson received.

We note the following other instances where the President was elected without a majority of the popular vote.

In 1844, James K. Polk was elected President, receiving 170 of the 275 electoral votes, but the combined popular vote of Henry Clay (Whig) and James G. Birney (Liberal) was 24,125 more than Polk's.

In 1844, Zachary Taylor (Whig) received 163 of the 290 electoral votes, while the combined vote of Cass (D) and Van Buren (Free Soil) exceeded Taylor's popular vote by 211,706.

In 1876, Samuel J. Tilden received 4,284,885 votes, while Rutherford B. Hayes received 4,033,950, or 240,000 less of the popular vote than Tilden. There were two other candidates for President that year—Peter Cooper (Greenback) and Green C. Smith (Prohibition). The combined popular vote of Tilden, Cooper and Smith was 4,338,362, or 346,412 more than Hayes', and yet a partisan commission appointed by Congress after its failure to agree on the count, by a vote of 8 to 7, gave Hayes 185 electoral votes and Tilden 184, declaring him elected. It was considered an outrageous theft of the Presidency by more than half of the American people and won for Mr. Hayes the sobriquet of Rutherford-fraud B. Hayes.

In 1880, James A. Garfield was elected President, although he received a minority of the popular vote, but 214 of the 369 electoral votes. The combined popular vote Hancock (D), Weaver (Greenback) and Dow (Prohibition) exceeded that of Garfield by 197,920.

Benjamin H. Harrison, elected in 1888, was another minority President counted by the popular vote. He received 95,713 less votes than Cleveland and 345,620 less than the combined vote of Cleveland and Fisk (Prohibition), but he got 233 of the 401 electoral votes.

President Wilson for a second term receives a majority of both the electoral and popular vote.

A CLOSE HOUSE

The House of Representatives of the next Congress will be very closely divided between the two big parties. Although Mr. Wilson has not only a majority of the electoral votes but a majority in the neighborhood of half a million of the popular vote, the Republicans are claiming that they will have control of the House. They figure that they have elected 217 of the 436 members of Congress, and that with three of the five independent members who have generally acted with them, even if they should not win in either of the three doubtful districts not yet decided, they will be able to elect a Speaker and organize the House.

On the other hand, Democratic House leaders dispute the claim of the Republicans, and that what they call a conservative list of members-elect gives the Democrats 219 members, one more than a majority. Also they expect that Meyer London of New York, the Socialist, who has nearly always lined up with the Democrats, and the two Minnesota Independents, will be with them in the organization of the House. But so close is the margin either way that the full facts will not be known until the official counts are completed in a number of closely contested districts.

Speaker Champ Clark's friends in this State are naturally much interested in the situation, for a Republican majority in the house, however small, would militate against his re-election as Speaker. Some of the Democratic House leaders are very hopeful on this point. Besides claiming that they will have 219 members, they do not believe that the Independents will vote for Congressman Mann for Speaker, and he will be the Republican nominee for the position, as he is at present the minority leader of the House. And then they claim that there are several Republican members who would not vote for Mr. Mann, especially some of those from the West. Still the situation is a little too critical for Mr. Clark's friends—who include the whole Democratic party and not a few Republicans—to feel comfortable.

PROHIBITION GAINING

Prohibition has made a long stride in this State since the submission of a prohibition amendment six years ago. Outside the large cities, the counties then returned a majority of 92,036 against prohibition, and including the large cities the majority against was 218,125.

The vote of the State outside of St. Louis on the prohibition amendment at the recent election, with 16 counties known to be "dry" not reported, shows a majority of 15,138 for prohibition, a gain in "dry" sentiment of 107,174 votes. Even Jackson county, in which Kansas City is located, went for prohibition.

In St. Louis the majority against was over 125,000, so large indeed that there is little doubt that all was not straight. Prohibitionists, however, are much encouraged by their large gains and a majority of 15,138 outside that city, which will be increased by the 16 counties not reported at this writing, as well as the fact that last week six States went "dry", making 25 States altogether that are in the prohibition column.

Teddy hasn't yet expressed his feelings over the election. When he does—well, let's wait and see. He's a smothering volcano that is sure to erupt sooner or later. The country would be lonesome but for his spectacular outbursts.

County Court

Win. Herbst, A. J. Griffin and D. C. Hoeft, arbitrators appointed to assess damages on farm of Leo Smith, reported that they did not think he was entitled to any damages whatsoever, and report was filed.

Collector was directed to return as erroneous assessment of W. S. Cooley's 68.45 acres in section 8, township 35, range 4, school district No. 44. Assessment should read, \$465 in school district No. 5 and \$15 in school district No. 44.

C. H. Menge filed the County Treasurer's receipt for \$31.50 subscription for improvement of Fredericktown road, and the Court appropriated a like amount for same purpose. Mr. Menge was appointed supervisor to expend same and filed his bond as such.

G. H. Denton filed the County Treasurer's receipt for \$137, subscription for improvement of Farmington and Caledonia road, and the Court appropriated a like sum for same purpose. Road Overseer J. H. Shaner was appointed supervisor for expenditure.

Albert Wulfert, County Clerk, filed his settlement of earnings of his office for the last quarter, which was approved.

J. C. Laird was granted pool table licenses for town of Elvins, and John Cook and James Roux for town of Bonne Terre.

County Clerk presented County Treasurer's receipt for both principal and interest of Matilda Abbott's school fund bond and mortgage, and was instructed to enter satisfaction on margin of record of same; also of the school fund bond and mortgage of N. C. Sebastian, and satisfaction was ordered entered on margin of record of same.

Minnie M. Karsch, a pay patient at the Mt. Vernon Sanatorium, made application for admission to that institution as a county patient and the Court so ordered.

The Saffel Telephone Co., a co-partnership organized for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a telephone line, from Bonne Terre and French Village road, thence east to J. L. Pigg's and Al McHenry's farms, thence north to John Saffel's and Oscar Murphy's farms, was granted permission to construct its lines with the usual restrictions.

Warrants Issued:

Thos. Autsen, Infirmary supplies, \$8.25; Morris Bros., same, \$15.50; Dr. G. E. Scrutcheff, for transporting Freddie Leigh to Colony for Feeble Minded at Marshall, \$21.97; Mrs. Alice Stroecke, support of Mrs. James McCarver and Mat McEural, \$18.35; Farmington Merc. Co., Infirmary supplies, \$76.81; James Wood, sawing wood at Infirmary, \$7.50; J. L. Swink, 10 cords of wood for Infirmary, \$30; H. S. Knauss, Infirmary supplies, \$1.25; C. M. Thomsen, power and light for Infirmary, \$7.08; Vestal L. R. & D. Co., Infirmary supplies, \$12; E. J. McKinney, same, \$8.90; C. E. Menge, road improvement, \$63; C. E. Laakman, Infirmary supplies, \$1.70; C. M. Thomsen; Waters Press, supplies for County School Superintendent, \$9; Missouri Reformatory, support of boys at school, \$174; J. M. Wertz & Co., supplies for Court House and jail, \$10.95; W. A. Bullock, constable, services to Board of Health, \$3; Farmington Telephone Co., services, \$34.15; J. C. Williams, Sheriff, board of prisoners, \$3.50; Missouri Home Society, support of children, \$150; J. C. Williams, cleaning cess pool, \$35.50; Mt. Vernon Sanatorium, support of patients, \$13.66; K. C. Weber, Judge of Probate, stamps, etc., \$7.63; C. M. Thomsen, light for court house and jail, \$33.18; A. C. Boyd, court house supplies, \$1.10; Polity's Book Store, supplies for offices, \$12.50; J. Clyde Akers, postage, \$9.51; Mell & Phillips, court house supplies, \$1.25; Dr. F. S. Weber, medical services County Board of Health, \$4.50; Burroughs Adding Machine Co., adding machine, \$494.70; Henry Davis, Prosecuting Attorney, postage, telephone tolls, etc., \$4.02; J. H. Kirkland, supplies at primary election, \$1; W. H. Smolinger, road material and hauling, \$6.85; C. H. Menge, road improvement, \$14; E. K. Hawn, crushed rock for Jackson road, \$620.55; Sam Thompson, election expenses, \$7.40; J. W. Schaefer, constable, services and rent of polling places, \$36.50; F. H. Millen, constable, same, \$6.70; Farmington News, publishing and printing official bul-

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For Sale by

E. M. Laakman

large and appreciative audience was on hand and an excellent program rendered. The following officers were elected for the year: President, Carl Hartshorn; Vice President, J. D. Poston; Secretary, G. W. Howell; Treasurer, C. G. Carr; Chaplain, Rev. Bennett, and door keeper, Mr. Elliott. This is a splendid set of officers and shifts the responsibility of the society to the town rather than to the school. CO. SUPT. OF SCHOOLS.

Taylor Smith, who is largely interested in the Miami, Oklahoma, mineral fields, returned Sunday from a trip to that place. He is abundantly pleased with the conditions of the property in which he is interested.

Notwithstanding the cold and stormy weather of Monday night, the entertainment given by the South Ward school and for its benefit, drew a well filled house at the Monarch. All were entertained, as well as amused, by the juvenile performances, which were highly creditable.

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